

Message Text

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70

ACTION AF-08

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FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2307

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PDEV, SF (TRANSKEI)

SUBJ: TRANSKEI: RELATIONS SOUR WITH ADJACENT HOMELANDS
GROUPS

1. EVEN BEFORE INDEPENDENCE THE TRANSKEI IS FINDING ITSELF
CONFRONTED WITH FOREIGN RELATIONS PROBLEMS. TRANSKEI RELATIONS
WITH NEIGHBORING CISKEI BECAME STRAINED IN EARLY 1975 WHEN,
WITH SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT BACKING, TWO FORMER CISKEI DIS-
TRICTS ENCOMPASSING 420,000 HECTARES WERE TRANSFERRED TO
TRANSKEI. ONE OF DISTRICTS, GLEN GREY, WAS TRANSFERRED DESPITE
FACT ITS INHABITANTS VOTED DECISIVELY IN SAG-CONDUCTED 1971
PLEBISCITE NOT TO JOIN TRANSKEI. GLEN GREY IS HOME OF A LARGE
PORTION OF CHIEF KAISER MATANZIMA'S EMIGRANT TEMBU TRIBE AND
MATANZIMA INSISTED ON TRANSFER OF TERRITORY AS PRELUDE TO
INDEPENDENCE. FORCED TRANSFER HAS CONTINUED TO RANKLE CISKEI
LEADERSHIP, HOWEVER.

2. STRAINS BETWEEN TWO XHOSA GROUPS INCREASED DURING LAST
WEEK IN JULY WHEN CISKEI CHIEF MINISTER LENOX SEBE REFUSED
REQUESTS BY KAISER MATANZIMA AND HIS BROTHER GEORGE TO ADDRESS
POLITICAL MEETING IN EAST LONDON BLACK TOWNSHIP OF MDANTSANE.
SEBE CLAIMED HIS REFUSAL HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH TRANSKEI BUT
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WAS IN LINE WITH BANNING OF ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS AFTER RECENT

DISTURBANCES AT FORT HARE UNIVERSITY AND LOVEDALE COLLEGE. THE WEEK BEFORE SEBE, HOWEVER, HAD ALLOWED AN OPPOSITION TRANSKEIAN LEADER, PARAMOUNT CHIEF SABATA DALINDYEBO TO ADDRESS A RALLY IN CISKEI. THIS PROVOKED KAISER MATANZIMA TO STATE PUBLICLY "THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF TROUBLE BETWEEN US", AND TO POINT OUT THAT THE PASSAGE OF CISKEI CITIZENS THROUGH THE TRANSKEI AND THEIR ABILITY TO TRADE THERE MIGHT BE AFFECTED UNLESS THE CISKEI LIFTED ITS BAN ON MATANZIMA'S RIGHT TO SPEAK TO TRANSKEIAN XHOSAS LIVING IN CISKEI.

3. MATANZIMAS ALSO ARE CONFRONTED WITH DISAFFECTED SOTHOS IN TRANSKEI (75 DURBAN A-84). CLAIMING GROSS UNDER REPRESENTATION IN TRANSKEI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND FACT THAT TWO DISTRICTS IN WHICH THEY PREDOMINATE ARE LARGER THAN THE BASOTHO HOMELAND OF QWA QWA, TRANSKEI SOTHOS IN 1975 WROTE PRIME MINISTER VORSTER SEEKING DELAY IN TRANSKEI INDEPENDENCE. MORE RECENTLY, ACTING THROUGH A CENTRAL COMMITTEE SAID TO REPRESENT SOME 36,000 IN THE MALUTI-HERSCHEL AREAS BORDERING LESOTHO, TRANSKEI'S SOUTHERN SOTHOS PETITIONED CHIEF KAISER MATANZIMA TO BE PERMITTED TO FORM ONE GOVERNMENT WITH THE QWA QWA HOMELAND WITHOUT HAVING TO LEAVE THE AREAS IN WHICH THEY PRESENTLY LIVE (I.E., BY SECEDING.) MATANZIMA HAS AS YET NOT REACTED TO THIS DEMAND.

4. MATANZIMA ALSO HAS CAST COVETOUS EYES ON CERTAIN SOUTHERN PORTIONS OF KWAZULU, THEREBY CAUSING FRICTION BETWEEN HIM AND KWAZULU CHIEF MINISTER BUTHELEZI. IN MID-1975 A SAG SPOKESMAN (BANTU AFFAIRS MINISTER M.C. BOTHA) PUBLICLY DISCLOSED THAT TRANSKEI HAD MADE REPRESENTATIONS TO SAG RE INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN KWAZULU AREAS. AREAS IN QUESTION ARE POPULATED BY BOTH XHOSA AND ZULU SPEAKERS ALTHOUGH LATTER PREDOMINATE. CHIEF BUTHELEZI HAS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT FUTURE OF TRANSKEI-KWAZULU RELATIONS IF TRANSKEI SHOULD PRESS ITS CLAIMS OR SAG SHOULD ENDORSE THEM.

5. COMMENT: AS RECENTLY AS THREE YEARS AGO, KAISER MATANZIMA WAS WIDELY ACCEPTED BY FELLOW HOMELANDS LEADERS AS SENIOR FIGURE AMONG THEM. NOW, WITH VISIBLE EXCEPTION OF BOPHUTATSWANA, WHICH ALSO HAD OPTED FOR INDEPENDENCE, HE FACES PROBLEMS IN RELATIONS WITH MANY OF THESE LEADERS INCLUDING ALL HIS IMMEDIATE UNCLASSIFIED

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NEIGHBORS. AS STRAINS HAVE DEVELOPED SO APPARENTLY HAS MATANZIMA'S TENDENCY TO LASH OUT OR THREATEN NEIGHBORING FIGURES WHO FAIL TO SEE EYE TO EYE WITH HIM. TESTINESS OF HIS STANCE IS, OF COURSE, ALSO REFLECTED IN INTERNAL TRANSKEI DEVELOPMENTS IN WHICH HE HAS MOVED VIGOROUSLY SO SQUELCH ANY OPPOSITION TO HIS IDEAS WELL IN ADVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE. FARBER

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